GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2725
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the commodities included for monitoring of Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the year in which the last commodities included in this index;

(b) whether there has been a liquidation in the CPI in the last few months;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent of decrease registered during each of the last six months till March 2006; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make changes in the method of calculating of CPI?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): With the approval of the Government, the new series of the Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) on base 2001 = 100, has been released by the Labour Bureau w.e.f. the index pertaining to the month of January, 2006 on 9th March, 2006. Approximately 370 items relating to cereals & products; pulses & products; oils & fats; milk & products; meat, fish & eggs; condiments & spices; vegetables & fruits, other food items; pan, supari, tobacco & intoxicants; fuel & light; clothing, bedding & footwear; medical care; education, recreation & amusement; transport & communication; personal care & effects and others besides housing have been included in the CPI - IW (Base 2001 = 100) series on the basis of the new Family Income & Expenditure Survey conducted during the period 1999-2000.

(b) to (d): The All - India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers during the period October, 2005 to March, 2006 are indicated in the table given below:

All India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers

```
Base 1982   = 100
Base 2001   = 100
October, 2005   - 548
January, 2006   - 119
November, 2005   - 553
February, 2006   - 119
December, 2005   - 550
March, 2006   - 119
```

It is evident from above that the All - India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (CPI - IW) on base 1982 = 100 has registered a decrease of 3 points in December, 2005, which is mainly on account of decrease in the prices of vegetables & fruits normally observed during the winter months in majority of the centres.

(e): The Government has recently constituted an Index Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. G.K. Chadha on 17.11.2006 to advise the Government to examine all issues pertaining to Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers.